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Economic and Community Development Committee Minutes November 25– 9:00am DuPage County Conference Room

Members Present: Chris Aiston, Tim Angell, Consuella Brown, Bill Browne, Lori Clark, JoAnne Eckmann, Thomas Gary, Robert Gleeson, John Greuling, Judith Kossy, Mike Scholefield, John Schneider, David Young

Members Absent: Andre Ashmore, Joe Balasa, Gideon Blustein, Tracey Bosman, Grant Davis, Robin Kelly, Sean McCarthy, Cindy McSherry, Charles Perkins, Harry Pestine, Angie Powell

Staff Present: Randy Blankenhorn, Annie Byrne, Bob Dean, Ylda Pinyero, Brian Rademacher, Paul Reise,

Others Present: Kristen Andersen, John Mcdonald, Joseph McKeown, Jane Mahoney, Catherine Mertes, Ed Sitar, Chalen Dagle

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am.

2.0 Welcome and Introductions

All attendees introduced themselves.

3.0 Approval of the Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Lori Clark and seconded by Tim Angell.

4.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

5.0 Staff Report

Staff presented a summary of the committee's accomplishments for 2008. Accomplishments included providing feedback on comprehensive planning efforts and reports, assisting in defining and choosing indicators to measure economic competitiveness in the Regional Indicators Project, reviewed preliminary draft snapshot on the cluster analysis. The Chairman said the committee had a successful year supporting and contributing to CMAP efforts. He added that the work plan for 2009 will be an opportunity to discuss policy and a regional economic development strategy, and continue to participate in the comprehensive planning efforts. Randy Blankenhorn

thanked the committee for their work in 2008 saying he appreciated their effort on such important topics.

Staff asked the committee to review the proposed scheduled dates for the 2009 calendar year. The committee made the following changes. The November meeting was changed to take place on Tuesday 17th and there will not be a meeting on December 29th. The committee approved the 2009 dates. They will be posted to the committee website and handed out at the January meeting.

6.0 Chairman Report

The chair gave a brief update on the DRI process. He informed members that the public comment phase would conclude next week and encouraged members to contact their local elected officials, investors, and the public to provide feedback and ideas on the process. He asked Randy Blankenhorn to add any additional insight in the process. Randy informed members that CMAP staff had made thirty presentations throughout the region and generally it was considered that the discussions have been helpful in defining the process. He stressed that CMAP is committed to working with stakeholders to define Developments of Regional Importance.

The committee asked if there was a concern about the time frame for the review process of a potential DRI. Randy responded that a specific time frame could not be set in place but there had been suggestions that the process be transparent. Tim Angell reminded the committee of the incentive process discussed in previous committee meetings and that this might be a positive way to bring developments to the table and work efficiently. Randy agreed that there could be a way to incentivize and streamline the process.

7.0 GOTO 2040

7.1 Economic Development Strategy Paper

John McDonald a consultant form RCF Economic and Financial Consulting, Inc. and briefly described the proposed scope for the Economic Development Strategy Paper. The strategy will consist of four papers. The first paper will focus on Innovation. This will build on the cluster analysis strategy being written by staff as well as technology transfer from research and development institutions in the region.

The second paper will assess the state of Telecommunications infrastructure and investments.

The third paper will focus on Green Energy production and growth of green jobs. The fourth paper will research import substitution/export promotion. The overall purpose is to document where the region is, consider what can be done, what should be done, and finally what the future could look like given several different strategies.

Lori Clark informed members that a lot of work had been done in the past and cited reports and research already done by the Department of Commerce of Economic Opportunity, Workforce Boards, and other agencies on Innovation and technology

transfer. John Schneider added that there were efforts by the city of Chicago on innovation and technology. On the green energy and employment report Judith Kossy cited Chicago's current research on the green collar economy. The committee agreed to compile the information and send it to the consultants.

The committee agreed that a lot of background work that had been done on many of these topics and they offered their expertise and help in discussing previous regional efforts so as to avoid duplication. Lori Clark, Bob Gleeson, and John Schneider agreed to assist in gathering information and serve as a task force to offer guidance and comments to RCF as the project moves forward. John Grueling asked how all the strategies will be connected to the comprehensive plan and to the economic development community. Bob Dean responded that all the strategy papers being written will result in an over all strategy for the comprehensive plan.

John Grueling concluded by saying that the expertise of the committee is important and that the results can assist in the development of a regional economic development strategy.

The committee thanked RCF for the presentation and asked for future update as the work progresses.

7.2 Review and Update on GOTO 2040

Bob Dean introduced recent work completed by Geoffrey Hewings and Regional Economic Application Laboratory (REAL) for the comprehensive plan. They developed draft 2040 forecasts using the Chicago Regional Econometric Input-output Model (CREIM). The model shows general trends for industries, income and output and gives baseline forecasts. The report will be shared with the committee and members will be given an opportunity to review the forecasts and report. The committee expressed interest in seeing more of the forecast and report in the near future.

8.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

9.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:30am.

The next meeting of the Economic and Community Development working committee will be held on **Tuesday January 27, 2009 at 9:00am** in the CMAP offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Rademacher Staff Liaison

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